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FM USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9510
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RUMIPAA/AFTAC AMHS PATRICK AFB FL
INFO RHEBAAA/DOE WASHDC
RUEKJCS/DOD WASHDC
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1662

UNCLAS UNVIE VIENNA 000245

DEPT FOR ISN/MNA, VCI/NA, L/ACV, IO/T, T, S/T-T
DOE FOR NN-40
JCS FOR J5/DDIN
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISP, ATSH/NCB/NT, AND DTRA
OVP FOR BLINKEN AND WOLFSTHAL

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AORC](#) [KTBT](#) [PARM](#) [ENRG](#)

SUBJECT: CTBTO: Update on DPRK Alleged Nuclear Test as of 27 May 2009

11. Please see para six for guidance requests.

12. The Chair of the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) convened a meeting of the Preparatory Commission May 26 to discuss the claimed DPRK nuclear test. All delegations that spoke were strongly critical of the DPRK. For the most part, delegations used language from statements already issued by their Foreign Ministers or heads of state. The Australian Preparatory Commission will now issue a summary of the statements.

13. The Provisional Technical Secretariat (PTS) of the CTBTO also provided a brief technical update on their preliminary findings. Atmospheric modeling was still under way, but the PTS continued to hope that radioactive debris would reach either the radionuclide station at Ussuriysk in Russia, or the Takasaki station in Japan, in a short time. The noble gas systems at both stations are currently operational.

14. The PTS further announced that preliminary analysis of the seismic data showed the possibility of two near-simultaneous events, most likely an explosion triggering tremors in the region. Unusually in this case, the tremors could have been stronger than the explosion, thus increasing the apparent magnitude of the explosion. The PTS cautioned that their analysis is still very preliminary. The Reviewed Event Bulletin (REB) is due out early Thursday morning, May 28, and the REB should contain more detailed analysis of the seismic event.

15. Comments: Thus far, the International Monitoring System has performed well, keeping to its prescribed reporting timeline. The 2006 DPRK test was picked up by only thirteen seismic stations, so the fact the 39 stations reported on the event this week is a significant improvement, reflecting an increase in the number of stations and upgrades in the seismic arrays at other stations. Attention will now shift to the noble gas systems. The most significant development since 2006 is the increase in the number of radionuclide stations with noble gas systems in the immediate neighborhood of the DPRK. Only ten of the projected forty noble gas systems had been constructed in 2006. There are now twenty stations providing data on noble gas, and all systems should be constructed by 2013. Station RN 58 close to the DPRK border at Ussuriysk, Russian Federation, is particularly important, since it has recently been equipped with a noble gas system.

16. Action request: the PTS reports several countries have shared information from their national systems with the PTS. the PTS has asked for information for the United States as well. Mission requests consideration of providing relevant information to the PTS

concerning the DPRK alleged test. We have also had requests from the UK and France to convene a P5 meeting at the working level in Vienna to discuss the DPRK event. Mission requests guidance on such a meeting as well.

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